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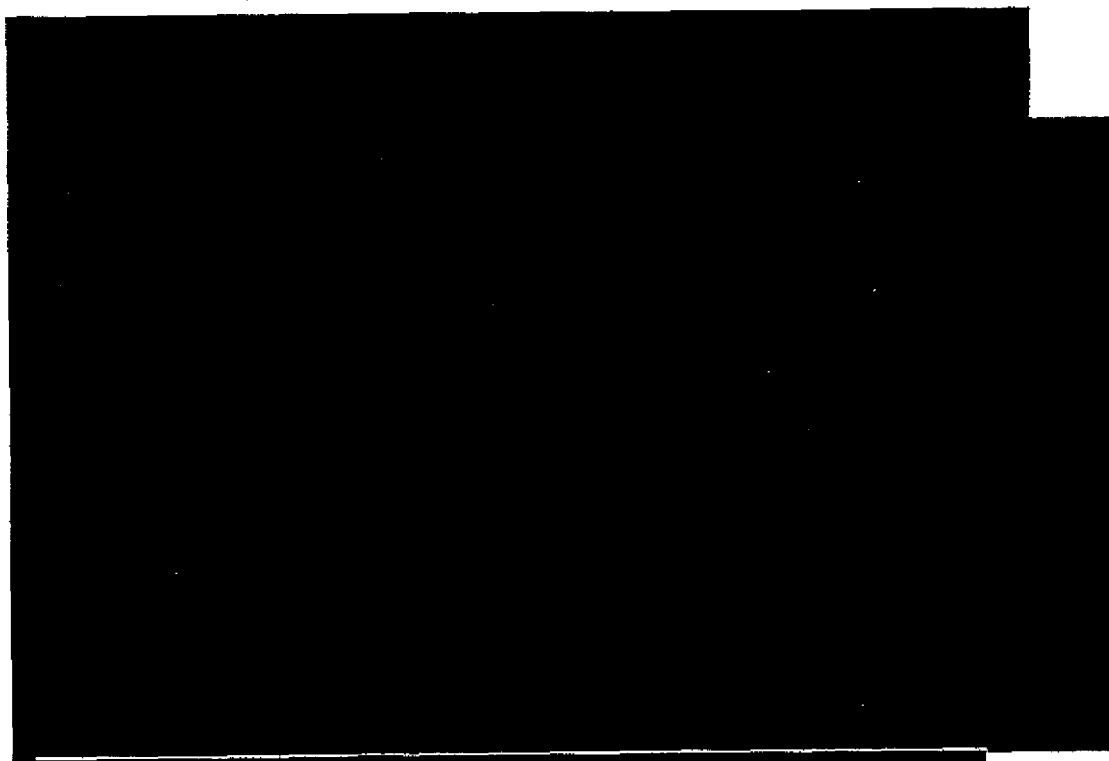
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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
NATIONAL FOREIGN ASSESSMENT CENTER

SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENTS RELATED TO THE US STAND ON HUMAN RIGHTS
(13 - 19 January 1978)

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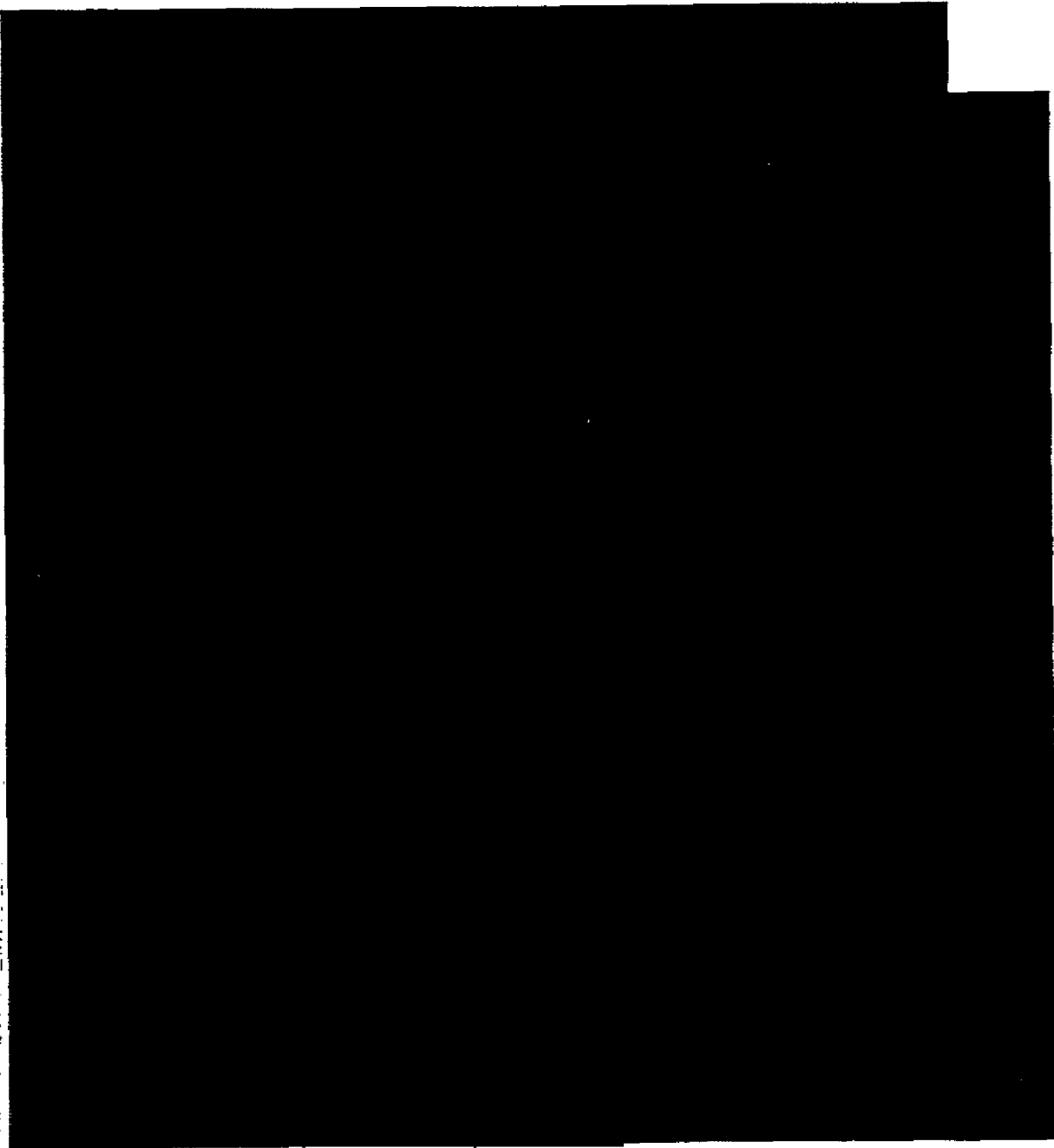
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Approved for Release
Date JUN 11 1980

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-- Chilean police arrested 12 Christian Democratic Party leaders on January 12, charging them with conducting an illegal political meeting. Two days later the group was banished to the remote northern part of the country. Other *Christian Democratic* leaders are concerned about the severity of the punishment, especially since the health of several of the detainees might be jeopardized by the harsh northern climate. Although the government's action, carried out with full knowledge of the media, may be the first hint of a crackdown on all political

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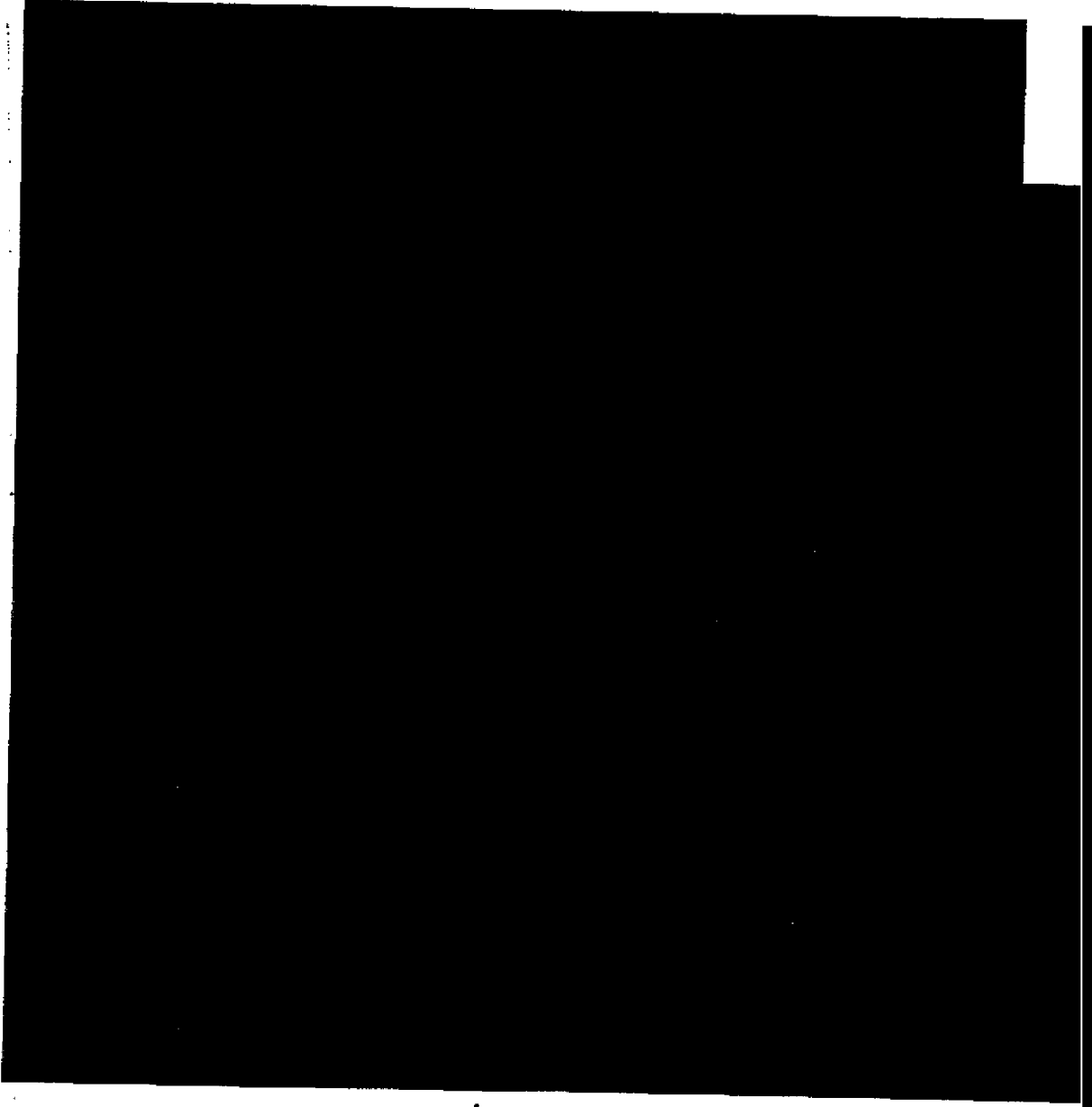
activity, it is more likely a warning that only a limited amount of such activity will be tolerated. Meanwhile, three women who had earlier been denied reentry to Chile, returned to the country without incident on January 18. The women had sought international assistance to force the Chilean government to release information on the fate of missing persons in the country.

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SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENTS RELATED TO THE US STAND ON HUMAN RIGHTS
(20 - 26 January 1973)

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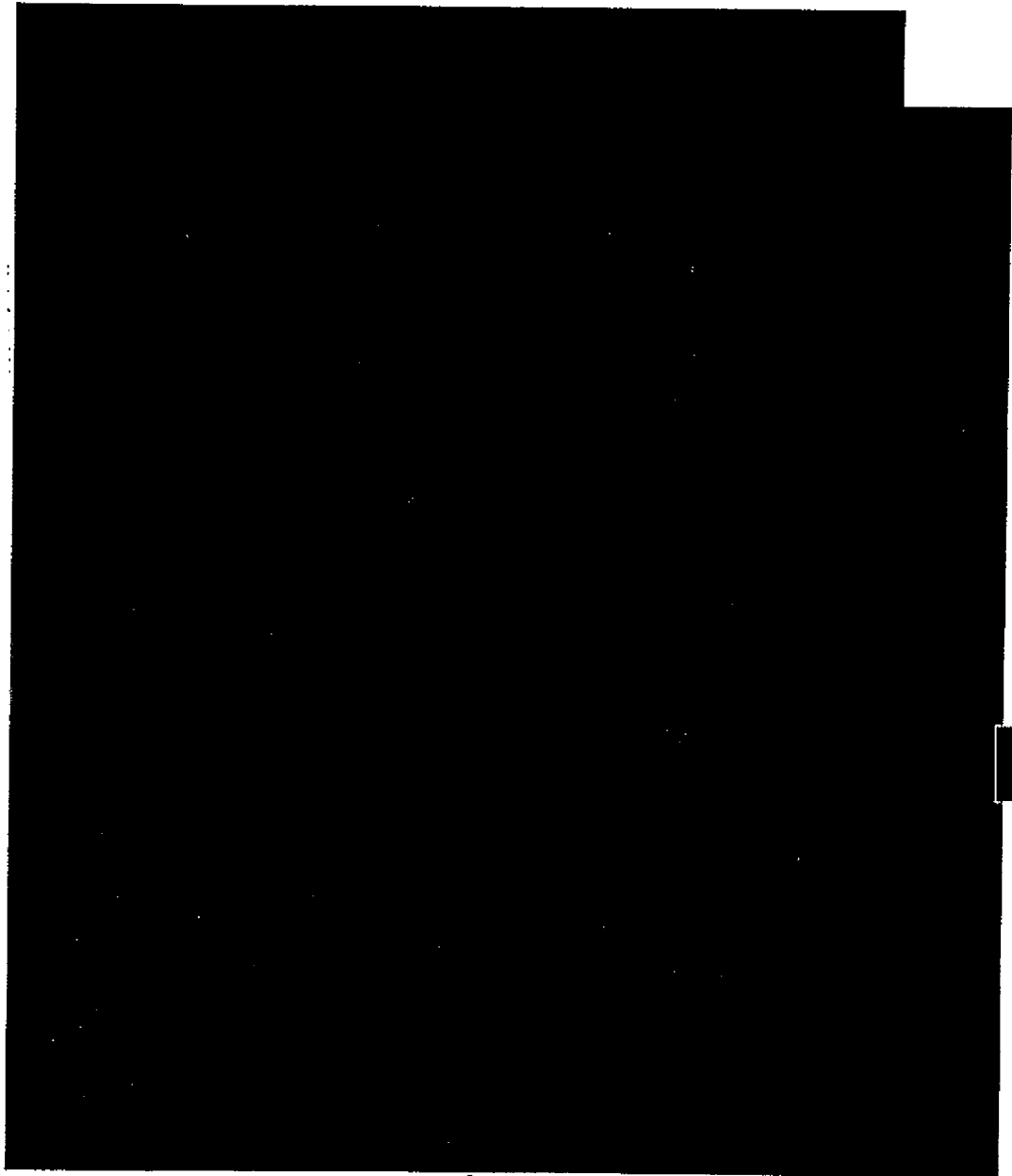
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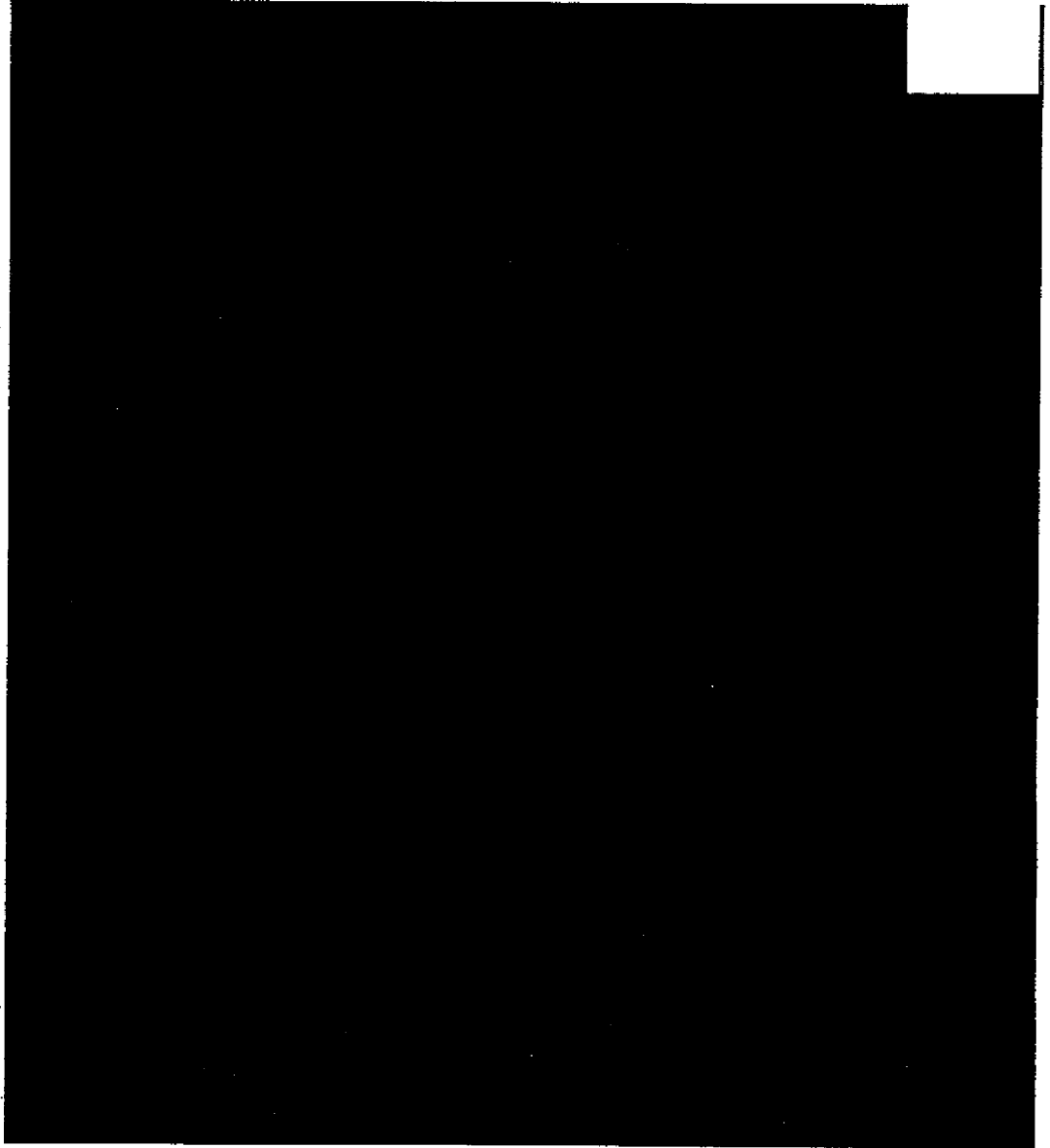


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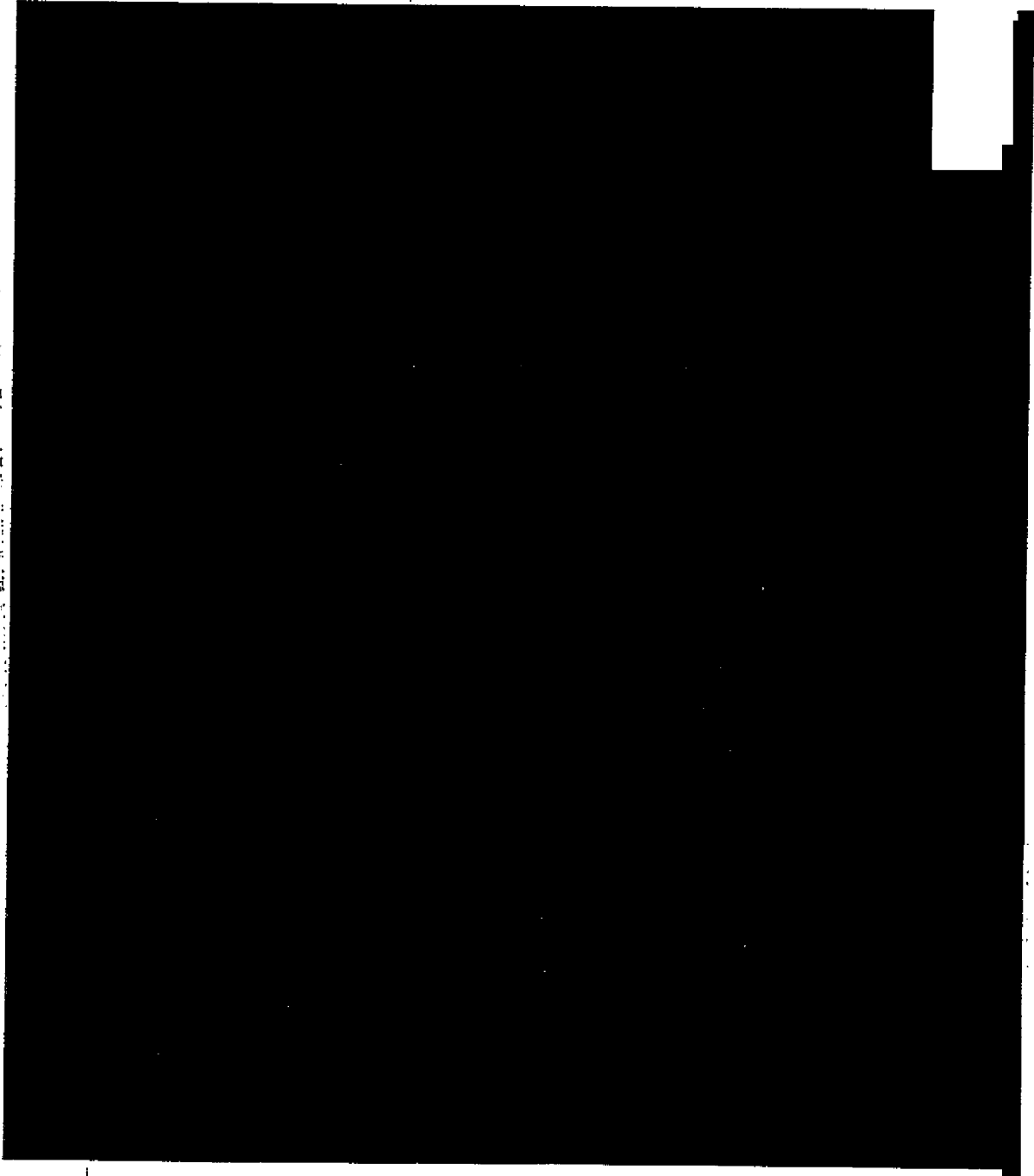


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The Chilean government reportedly has improved the living conditions of the 12 Christian Democratic party leaders banished to the north on January 14. Relatives of the group have asked the Ministry of the Interior to bring the 12 before the court on specific charges so that it can be determined if, in fact, a law has been broken. The habeas corpus petition will probably be denied because the judiciary in the past has not challenged the existing state of siege in such cases. Meanwhile, some West European members of the United Nations Human Rights Commission have voiced on the plight of the banished Chilean politicians. While the Europeans recognize that the Chileans have made some progress in human rights practices, they believe that the focus of future human rights resolutions on Chile should be changed from cases of direct abuse to the general problem of repressive rule. They are pressing for a resolution that will call for an end of the state of siege, restoration of freedom of the press, and liberation of all political prisoners.

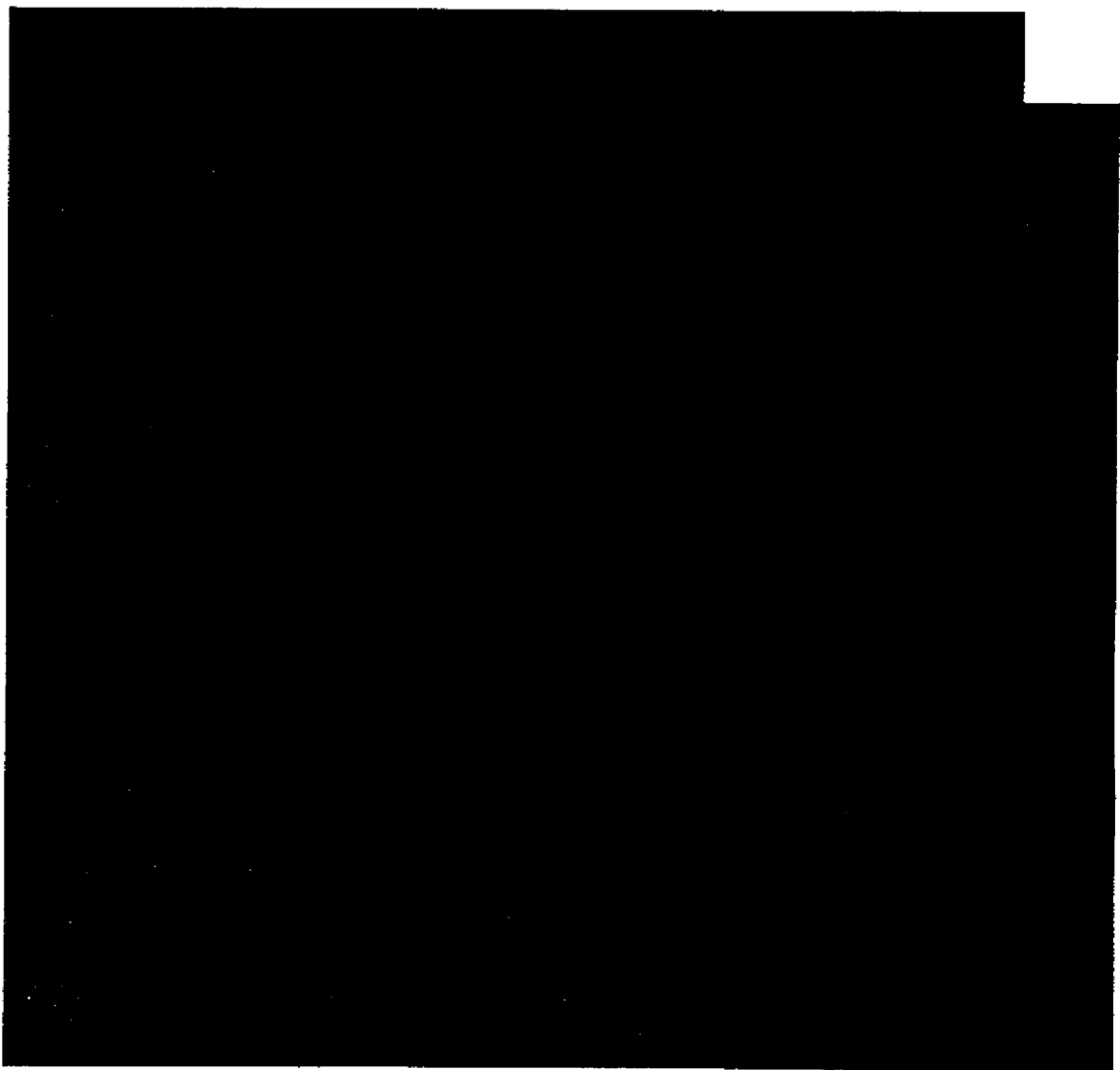
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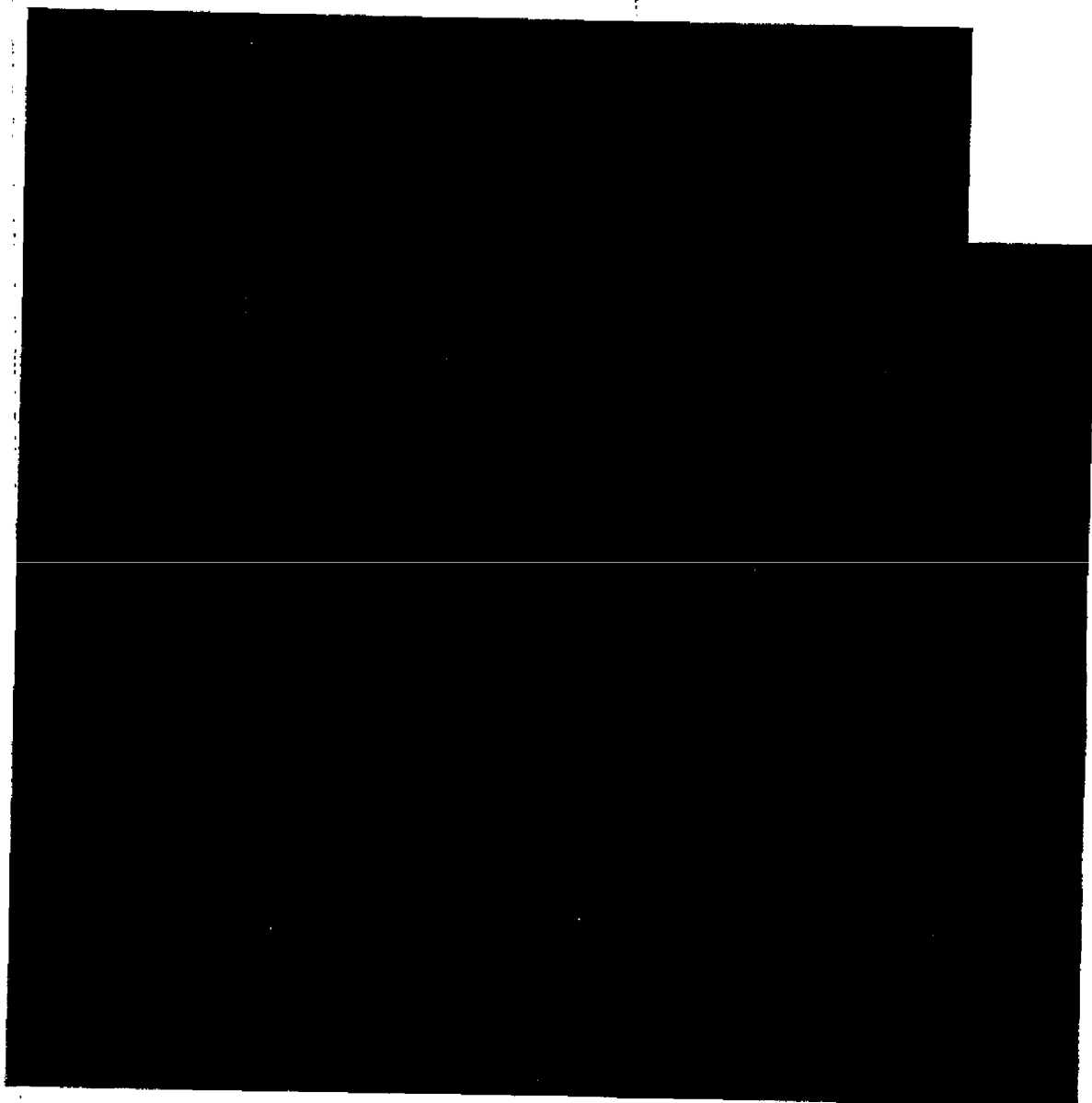


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